

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

[PERFECTED]

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2002

## 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES FARNEN AND NAEGER (Co-sponsors).

Read 1<sup>st</sup> time February 20, 2002, and 1000 copies ordered printed.

Read 2<sup>nd</sup> time February 21, 2002, and referred to the Committee on Local Government and Related Matters, March 5, 2002.

Reported from the Committee on Local Government and Related Matters March 14, 2002, with recommendation that the bill Do  
Pass by Consent.

Perfectured by Consent March 21, 2002.

TED WEDEL, Chief Clerk

4811L.01P

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### AN ACT

To repeal sections 58.260, 58.270, 58.310, 58.330, 58.340, and 58.360, RSMo, and to enact in  
lieu thereof six new sections relating to coroners inquests.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Sections 58.260, 58.270, 58.310, 58.330, 58.340, and 58.360, RSMo, are  
2 repealed and six new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 58.260, 58.270,  
3 58.310, 58.330, 58.340, and 58.360, to read as follows:

58.260. Every coroner, [so soon as he shall be notified] **having been notified** of the dead  
2 body of any person, supposed to have come to his **or her** death by violence or casualty, being  
3 found within his county, [shall] **may** make out his **or her** warrant, directed to the sheriff of the  
4 county where the dead body is found, requiring him **or her** forthwith to summon a jury of six  
5 good and lawful citizens of the county, to appear before such coroner, at the time and place in  
6 his **or her** warrant expressed, and to inquire[, upon a view of the body of the person there lying  
7 dead,] how and by whom he **or she** came to his **or her** death.

58.270. The sheriff to whom such warrant shall be directed shall forthwith execute the  
2 same, and shall repair to the place where the [dead body is,] **inquest is to be held** at the time  
3 mentioned, and make return of the warrant, with his proceedings thereon, to the coroner who  
4 granted the same.

**EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended  
to be omitted in the law.**

58.310. As soon as the jury shall be sworn, the coroner shall give them a charge, upon  
2 their oaths, to declare of the death of the person, whether he **or she** died by felony or accident;  
3 and if of felony, who were the principals and who were accessories, **and if the act was justified**,  
4 and all the material circumstances relating thereto; and if by accident, whether by the act of man,  
5 and the manner thereof, and who was present, and who was the finder of the body, and whether  
6 he **or she** was killed in the same place where the body was found, and, if elsewhere, by whom,  
7 and how the body was brought there, and all other circumstances relating to the death; and if he  
8 **or she** died of his **or her** own act, then the manner and means thereof, and the circumstances  
9 relating thereto.

58.330. Every coroner shall be empowered to issue his **or her** summons for witnesses,  
2 **and such evidence, documents, and materials of substance**, commanding them to come before  
3 him **or her** to be examined, and to declare their knowledge concerning the matter in question.

58.340. He **or she** shall administer to them an oath or affirmation in form as follows:  
2 You do swear (or affirm) that the evidence you shall give to the inquest, concerning the  
3 death of the person here [lying] dead, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the  
4 truth.

58.360. The jury, having viewed the body **by photographic, electronic, or other**  
2 **means**, heard the evidence, and made all the inquiry in their power, shall draw up and deliver  
3 to the coroner their verdict upon the death under consideration, in writing under their hand, and  
4 the same shall be signed by the coroner.